

~~XXXXXX~~ date unknown. Hillsboro is located on a broad level plain with an elevation of 2,302 feet being situated in the midst of the finest limestone farming section in the county and is largely supported by the products of these farms and for many years Hillsboro was the educational center of that region and supported the Hillsboro Academy as Hillsboro was known as Academy for many years as it was established in 1842 was incorporated in that year under a charter granted by the state of Virginia the incorporators were the late men Joseph Beard, S. D. Poage, Samuel L Mathews, Moses H Poage, John Hill, Thomas Hill, James Miller, and Richard McNeel the first principal was the Rev. Joseph Brown who served for seven years and was succeeded by Rev. M. D. Dunlap who served until the war came on in 1860 and the school closed, after this the county purchased the building for public school purposes, this was the first school of high order in the county and it left its impression upon the education interests of this mountain region as many of our leaders of today received a part of their education at this old academy.

Hillsboro has continued to grow as an educational center as today we find a population of 225 a part of which are people who have moved in for educational advantages as today there is a high school and a graded school.

About 1910 or 11 Edgar H McLaughlin with his brother the late Lee P McLaughlin started what was known at that time as a horse show but later developed into our county fair and it was at this show that some of the best

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horses that Pocahontas County ever produced or owned were raced or shown among them was ~~K~~ Fair Maiden owned by Robert Burns, Gratten Patch raced by Dr. Sandy Arbuckle, Tom Thumb by Lacy Johnson, Dock Blackburn by Pat Gay and many others. M. Claughlins operated this fair for 3 or 4 years each year they ~~WK~~ went to Mt. Sterling Ky. and brought in many fine saddle horses that were sold at public auction. The late George Vallison also brought in many fine gaited horses and sold them throughout the county. The last year the show operated was under the management of Dr. Marvin C Smith as he rented it that year. About 1915 this show was moved to Marlinton to lower Camden where they operated for a short time and finally the present <sup>SITE</sup> ~~sight~~ was bought and a corporation was formed and called The Pocahontas County Fair which we still have with added features to what it was at the start, the management was Dr. S. B. Wallace, John Sydenstricker, E. H. Williams and Z. S. Smith and many others this was all done by public spirited men for the development of our county, and today this fair is looked forward to by thousands of our people and is a homecoming for the ones out of the county and state. Hillsboro is in the center of what many people have called the cup like shaped basin of fertile soil from which has been farmed for several generations from the pioneer to the present time among the first farmers were the following Charles W Beard, Sherman H Clark, Richard <sup>William L Mousel</sup> Hill, ~~Franklin~~ Renick, and others, the first physician was

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us P Bryan and James A. LaRue all of these men were born in the early part of the 18th century.

At the time of the breaking out of the war William Curry was serving as both County and Circuit Clerk and feeling the county records were in danger the court ordered the records removed to the home of the late Joel Hill here they remained till 1862 when Mr Curry became alarmed and had them removed to Covington Va, for safe keeping later to be removed to the residence of William Clark where they were concealed in a stack of buckwheat straw and later to the mountains and stored away at the house of a Baptist minister and at the close of the war court was held in the old Methodist Church at Hillsboro. These men were true to their trust. ~~THE~~

These accomplishments were made by public spirited men working for and contributing to the growth of Pocahontas County.

Inf----- C.W Price Marlinton. W.Va.

Rella F Yeager. Hillsboro. "

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